

(STUDENT NAME OMITTED)

The First Amendment protects and regulates Santa Teresa High School's media in many ways. The First Amendment allows that each and every individual have the right of freedom of speech and expression. The student body is capable of expressing their feeling on certain matters and issues that occur on our school's campus as well as the district. Whether the matter is serious or humorous, each and every student can voice their opinion on any topic they wish. Technically the student's can contribute to any discussion without a problem based on the fact that all individual's have freedom of speech, as long as it does not hurt someone else or can potentially be offensive. As stated in the First Amendment, we have the right to freedom of speech.

Santa Teresa media expresses their opinion through broadcasts, features, commercials, interviews, social networking, and many other aspects. Students can say what they like about our school and what they dislike. They can mention whether or not our student body deserves more freedom as far as dress code or electronic devices are concerned. We can interview students on campus and ask them questions on issues as serious as how well they think the student body is prepared for the end of the year SAT testing, or something as small as how creative they think our spirit days are here at Santa Teresa. The range of possible questions to be asked is basically limitless due to the freedom of speech and expression we have because of what is stated in the First Amendment.

For example, in the Sheppard v. Maxwell case, a man was accused of murdering his wife. However, although he was already said to be guilty of murdering his wife, the courts allowed him to have another trial. The reason for them allowing the Sheppard v. Maxwell case to be re-evaluated was because the man had claimed that he had not been given the right to freedom of speech and expression. He also said that although he did speak out on his behalf, in order to prove his innocence in the case, that it was not a fair trial. The man had said that the questions he was asked were specifically worded in order to lead him astray from the topic, and only result in him expressing some sort of guilt. The Courts had taken this into consideration, and after many discussions, they stated that he did not have the right to freedom of speech and expression.

The First Amendment protects and regulates Santa Teresa's media, allowing us to say what we like and express our own opinion. Through all the broadcasts and interviews that are made, we are able to discuss any issues without a problem. The First Amendment clearly gives us the right to speak on behalf of our student body, so long as it does not hurt or someone or offended another person(s).